REPORT OF WORK OF NEW JERSEY

Christiana T. Lybrand

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HOUSE FOR THE BLIND

Paper read by Miss Christiana T. Lybrand of
New Jersey at the Eastern Conference of Home Teachers,
Hartford, Conn., September 5 - 7, 1928.

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REPORT OF WORK OF NEW JERSEY

BY

CHRISTIANA T. LYBRAND

REPORT ON THE WORK OF NEW JERSEY.

The New Jersey Commission for the Blind was organized in 1910 with a supervisor and two assistants.

The work being accomplished at the present time by the Commission requires the services of the Chief Executive, six Home Teachers, two Field Workers, Sales Clerk and office force.

The first duty of a Home Teacher is to investigate the history of every blind person in his or her district; by so doing, one ascertains whether the individual requires instructions, social adjustment, or financial aid.

If convenient the children are sent to the classes for the blind in public schools. At the present time we have several of these classes, and as each district has the requisite number of blind children other classes will be organized. Where such classes are not available the children are sent to residential schools.

The finished work sent in to Headquarters by the consignors is disposed of by sales held in various parts of the State. The proceeds of the sale of each article go to the respective worker. These sales are under the supervision of the Commission. In this way the work that is being done by the blind is brought to the attention of the public.

After the newly blinded adult is rehabilitated and is capable, an effort is made to replace him in the industry in which he was formerly engaged. We have several workers in factories who are self-supporting. At the present time several of our blind are successful with newsstands, poultry raising and salesmanship, and there are a few who help to support themselves by chair caning, weaving, and sewing.

Some of our people have their small earnings supplemented by a monthly allowance from the State.

The Outdoor Relief Bill for the needy blind was passed in 1922. The Field Secretary is in charge of the Outdoor Relief Work. The following will give you some idea as to this work:

Applications sent to	71
Applications received from	59
Cases passed on favorably by the Board	36
Cases denied by the Board	10
Cases passed on favorably by the County Judge	35
Cases denied by the County Judge	2
Recipients deceased	4
Recipients committed to State Institutions	1
Number of recipients during the year	122
" " " June 30, 1928	116
Relief discontinued	1
Applicants committed to Almshouse	1
Increase in Relief approved by Board	3
Increase in Relief denied by Board	1
Increase in Relief passed on favorably by County Judge	3

I should like to take time to tell of the splendid work our Field Secretary is doing, however, this does not come under the State's supervision. For the past two summers the men have had the opportunity to have a two weeks' vacation at the Atlantic Highlands. This movement is sponsored by the Blind Men's Club of North Jersey, supplemented by donations from outsiders and assisted by the various organizations; such as the Lions and Elks. In this way the men have a recreation that heretofore has been unavailable to them and for

Some of our people have their small earnings supplemented by a monthly allowance from the State.

The Widows Relief Bill for the needy blind was passed in 1922. The Field Secretary is in charge of the Widows Relief Work.

The following will give you some idea as to this work:

Applications sent to	71
Applications received from	39
Cases passed on favorably by the Board	35
Cases denied by the Board	10
Cases passed on favorably by the County Judge	35
Cases denied by the County Judge	2
Recipients deceased	4
Recipients committed to State Institutions	1
Number of recipients during the year 1922	
" " " June 30, 1922	116
Relief discontinued	1
Applicants committed to Almshouse	1
Increase in relief approved by Board	3
Increase in relief denied by Board	1
Increase in Relief passed on favorably by County Judge	3

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which they are very grateful. The Field Secretary has entire charge of this Summer Camp.

The New Jersey Commission for the Blind gives special attention to the diseases of the eyes and the prevention of blindness. This work is in charge of a Field Nurse.

The following report for the past year may be interesting to you:

Total blind reached	654
C. C. Commission	98
Total number pupils	232
Total number new cases	114
Deceased	23
Removal from state	10
Total Expenditure	$5850.57

Christiana T. Lybrand
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New Jersey Commission for the Blind

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